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negative condition is identified and not disabling said airbag control or said seat belt control if all predetermined conditions are positive conditions;

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concl. an occupant sensor assembly that generates an occupant signal representing multiple occupant characteristics;

a collision sensor assembly that generates a collision signal representing vehicle collision characteristics; and

a processing unit for receiving input comprised of said modifier, occupant, and collision signals and for generating at least one output signal based on said input that optimizes deployment of said occupant restraint system.

18. (Amended) A method for controlling an occupant restraint system including at least a seat belt assembly and an airbag assembly comprising the steps of:

C2 (a) (1) generating at least one modifier signal that represents either a positive condition to enable the occupant restraint system or a negative condition to disable the occupant restraint system; and

(2) disabling at least one of an airbag control or a seat belt control in response to the modifier signal identifying at least one negative condition and not disabling the airbag control or the if the modifier signal identifies all possible conditions as positive conditions;

(b) after step (a)(2), generating an occupant signal representing multiple occupant characteristics;

(c) generating a collision signal representing vehicle collision characteristics; and

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cancel. (d) transmitting the modifier, occupant, and collision signals as multiple input signals to a processing unit; and

(e) generating at least one output signal based on the input signals to optimize deployment of the occupant restraint system.

C3 29. (Amended) A system as set forth in claim 1 wherein said at least one modifier sensor includes a child seat sensor for identifying all possible installation positions of a child seat including forward and rearward facing positions.

C4 31. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 18 including the step of generating a child seat position signal as a modifier signal during step (a) to identify installation position of a child seat as being either forward facing or rearward facing with forward facing corresponding to a positive condition and rearward facing corresponding to a negative condition

C5 41. (New) A method as set forth in claim 18 including utilizing a fuzzy logic analysis process to generate the at least one output signal based on the plurality of input signals.
